

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A micro-mirror for deflecting an incident light comprising:
a mirror section for reflecting an incident light;
a hinge section including a fixed section and a movable section each having a
5 flat surface; and
a drive means having a bi-morph structure made of two or more of materials
having different heat expansion coefficient for deflecting said mirror section to change a
relative angle to said incident light.
2. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 1, wherein
10 said mirror section is provided to be continuous from said movable section of
the hinge section and to be slanted to said flat surface on the movable section of the
hinge section, thereby said relative angle to said incident light in accordance with the
change of said movable section of the hinge section.
3. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 1, wherein
15 said drive means includes:
a first drive film provided on one of surfaces of said moving section of the
hinge section, and
a second drive film provided on another of the surfaces of said moving section
and having larger thermal coefficient than said first drive film.
- 20 4. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 3, wherein
said first drive film and second drive film are made from different types of
conductive materials to each other.
5. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 4, wherein
said first drive film is a poly-crystal silicon film including impurities, and
25 said second drive film is an aluminum film.
6. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 3, wherein
said first drive film and second drive film are made from the same types of
materials having different resistance to each other.
7. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 2, wherein
30 said hinge section and said mirror section are integrally constructed on a
structured film formed on a semiconductor substrate.
8. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 7, wherein

said semiconductor substrate is a silicon substrate.

9. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 7, wherein

said fixed section and movable section of the hinge section are formed on a first crystalline surface of a silicon substrate respectively, and

5 said mirror section is formed on a second crystalline surface of said silicon substrate.

10. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 9, wherein

said hinge section is fixed to said silicon substrate by said fixed section.

11. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 7, wherein

10 said structured film includes a nitride film.

12. The micro-mirror as cited in claim 11, wherein

said movable section and said mirror section of said hinge section are made only by a thin film of said nitride film.

13. A scanner device comprising:

15 a light emitting device;

a mirror section for reflecting an input incident light from said light emitting device;

a hinge section including a fixed section and a movable section each having a flat surface; and

20 a micro-mirror equipped with a drive means having a bi-morph structure made of two or more of materials having different heat expansion coefficient for deflecting said mirror section of a relative angle to said incident light; and

an optical detector for detecting a return light of a light irradiated by reflecting at said mirror section.

25 14. The scanner device as cited in claim 13, wherein

said hinge section and said mirror section are integrally constructed on a structured film formed on a semiconductor substrate; and

said optical detector is formed on said silicon substrate.

15. A method for fabricating a micro-mirror which comprises:

30 a mirror section for reflecting an incident light;

a hinge section including a fixed section and a movable section each having a flat surface; and

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a drive means having a bi-morph structure made of two or more of materials having different heat expansion coefficient for deflecting said mirror section of a relative angle to said incident light; wherein

5 said hinge section and the mirror section are integrally constructed by a structured film formed on a semiconductor substrate by utilizing crystal anisotropy of said semiconductor substrate.

16. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 15, wherein;

10 said movable section of the hinge section is so formed as to be continuous from said fixed section of the hinge section and is formed so as to construct a bent slanting surface at an extended section of the fixed section of the hinge section.

17. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

15 forming a first groove having a first skewed surface at a side wall section on a front surface of said semiconductor substrate, and a second groove having a second skewed surface substantially parallel to said first skewed surface of the first groove at a position and opposite to a flat surface section around said first groove on a back surface of said semiconductor substrate;

forming structured films at said first skewed surface of the first groove and said flat surface section around said first groove;

20 forming a first drive film at one surface of said structured film;

forming said mirror section and said hinge section made of the structured film by removing said semiconductor substrate with etching process after performing a through-hole etching of said semiconductor substrate to make one end of said structured film to be a free end at a bottom section of said first groove; and

25 forming a second drive film on another surface of the structured film constructing said hinge section.

18. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 17, wherein

30 an-isotropic etching is performed to said first groove and said second groove after forming said first groove on the front surface of the semiconductor substrate and said second groove on the back surface of the semiconductor substrate.

19. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 18, wherein

said an-isotropic etching is performed using a mask formed by patterning a

photo-resist film by UV ray projection exposure method, wherein said photo-resist film is uniformly formed in thickness by a spray method.

20. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 17, wherein further comprising the steps of:

5 forming a metal film on said structured film constructing said mirror section and the hinge section; and

forming a reflection film and an electrode pad for supplying current to said reflection film by selectively etching said metal film.

21. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 20, wherein
10 a patterned photo-resist obtained by patterning the photo-resist film uniformly formed in thickness by the spray method by projection exposure apparatus is used as a mask upon forming said reflection mirror and the electrode pad.

22. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 17, wherein a silicon substrate is employed as said semiconductor substrate,

15 23. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 22, wherein said fixed section and the movable section of the hinge section are formed on a first crystal surface of the silicon substrate; and

said mirror section is formed on a second crystal surface of the silicon substrate.

20 24. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 22, wherein a nitride film is formed as said structured film at said first groove and a flat space around said first groove.

25 25. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 24, wherein said silicon substrate of the hinge section is selectively removed only to leave said nitride film at the hinge section.

26. The method for fabricating the micro-mirror as cited in claim 22, wherein said hinge section and the mirror section are formed by an etching process using Potassium Hydroxide, Hydrazine, Ethylene-Diamine-Pyrocatechol Water, or Tetra-Methyl Ammonium Hydroxide.

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